

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PALERM 00444 091838Z

44

ACTION EUR-12

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R 091505Z JUL 76

FM AMCONSUL PALERMO

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

UNCLAS PALERMO 0444

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT IT

SUBJECT: CONVOCATION OF THE REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

1. THE EIGHTH CONVOCATION OF THE SICILIAN REGIONAL ASSEMBLY WAS CALLED YESTERDAY. THE MEETING WAS PRESIDED OVER BY ON. MARIO ZAPPALA', ELDERLY CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT FROM CATANIA. AFTER THE FORMALITIES, THE PRESIDENT GAVE AN ADDRESS STRESSING RENEWAL AND APPLAUDING THE PRECEDING "CONFRONTO" LEGISLATURE.

2. ONE STRIKING FACT OF THE OPENING OF THE LEGISLATURE WAS AN UNPRECEDENTED MESSAGE FROM THE CARDINAL OF PALERMO, SALVATORE PAPPALARDO. THE CARDINAL EXPOSED IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS HIS ADMONISHMENTS FOR GOOD GOVERNMENT, THE DEVELOPMENT OF SICILY, AND A CALL FOR VIGILANCE ON THE PART OF THE ELECTORATE TO SEE ITS WILL CARRIED OUT. HE REMINDED THE ASSEMBLY THAT THE JUNE 20 VOTE WAS NOT NECESSARILY AN EXPRESSION OF SATISFACTION WITH THE PRECEDING GOVERNMENT, BUT RATHER A CALL FOR UPRIGHT, EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT OF THE REGION.

3. DISCUSSIONS BEGIN TODAY FOR THE NEXT ORDER OF BUSINESS: THE APPOINTMENT OF A PRESIDENT AND THE HEADS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES. THE COMPOSITION OF THE MAJORITY ALSO REMAINS UNDETERMINED. THERE ARE NO CLEAR INDICATIONS FOR ANY SOLUTIONS--MANY ARE POSSIBLE. CHIAVARINI

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## Message Attributes

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